

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/742,320

Examiner

Wasseem H Hamdan

Applicant(s)

WHITE ET AL.

Art Unit

2854

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/18/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 14-34 and 44-48.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 December 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☒ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 03/22/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Terminal Disclaimer

1. The terminal disclaimer filed on 12/09/2004 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application, which would extend beyond the expiration date of the US Patent 6,695,495 B1 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Tom Chen (Registration No. 42,406) on 12/09/04.

The application has been amended as follows:

a. Specification: page 1, lines 12, --, now a US Patent 6,695,495 B1, patented on February 24, 2004 – after “2003”.

b. Claims:

i. Claims 7-13, 35-39 and 40-43 have been cancelled;

ii. Claim 26, line 8, “a high”, has been replaced with -- two distinct --;

iii. Claim 30, line 3, “one high”, has been replaced with -- two distinct --; and

- iv. Claim 44, lines 3-4, have been replaced with -- providing a source of ink, wherein said ink comprises a mixture of two or more inks each said ink having a different viscosity; -- .

Examiner's Statement Of Reason For Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-6, 14-34 and 44-48 are allowable.

Regarding claim 1, the prior art of records does not teach all the combined elements and or components for an impact printer including a supply of ink, wherein said ink comprises a mixture of two or more inks each ink having a different viscosity at the same temperature; a sensor for determining the amount of ink on said ink ribbon; and a circuit for causing said pump to pump ink to said reservoir roller when said sensor senses an ink condition on said ribbon.

Regarding claim 14, the prior art of records does not teach all the combined elements and or components for a line printer including two or more channels interiorly of said reservoir roller for flowing ink to respective segments of said reservoir roller, a sensor having two or more respective sensing portions for determining an amount of ink on said ribbon at two or more respective segments of said ribbon; and a controller for causing said one or more pumps to pump ink in response to the amount of ink sensed by said sensor to a respective segment of said roller corresponding to a segment of said ribbon.

Regarding claim 21, the prior art of records does not teach all the combined elements and or components for a re-inker for a printer including two or more channels interiorly of said

Art Unit: 2854

reservoir roller for flowing ink to respective segments (for supplying multi-viscosity ink) of said reservoir roller; a pump coupled to each of said channels and an ink supply, a sensor for sensing a quantity of ink on respective segments of said print ribbon; and an electrical drive for causing said pump to pump ink to a channel in response to said sensor for re-inking a segment of said ink ribbon.

Regarding claim 26, the prior art of records does not teach all the combined steps for a method of printing including sensing the amount of ink on said print ribbon, wherein the ink comprises at least two viscosity ink; pumping ink to said reservoir roller in response to the amount of ink sensed on said print ribbon, and pumping ink to said reservoir roller in response to the amount of ink sensed on said print ribbon.

Regarding claim 30, the prior art of records does not teach all the combined steps for a method of re-inking a print ribbon including sensing the amount of ink on said print ribbon by light reflectance, pumping ink to said reservoir roller in response to the amount of ink sensed on said print ribbon, and distributing ink pumped to said reservoir roller to at least two distinct segments of said reservoir roller; and applying ink from said reservoir roller to at least two distinct segments of said print ribbon.

Regarding claim 44, the prior art of records does not teach all the combined steps for a method of re-inking a print ribbon including sensing the amount of ink (wherein said ink comprises a mixture of two or more inks each ink having a different viscosity) on said print

Art Unit: 2854

ribbon, pumping ink to said reservoir roller in response to the amount of ink sensed on said print ribbon, and distributing ink pumped to said reservoir to the porous portion of said reservoir roller; and providing ink from the porous portion of said reservoir roller to said print ribbon.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The prior art of records does not teach all the combined steps and all the combined elements / components as discussed above in the "examiner's statement of reasons for allowance".

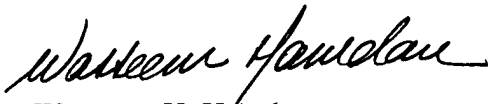
4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wasseem H Hamdan whose telephone number is (571) 272-2166. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (first Friday off) 6:30 AM- 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew H Hirshfeld can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

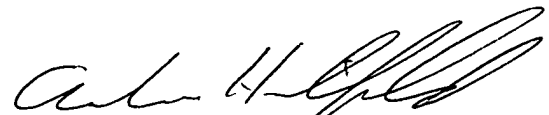
Art Unit: 2854

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Wasseem H. Hamdan

December 15, 2004



ANDREW H. HIRSCHFELD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800